

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/800,080

Examiner

Tho D. Ta

Applicant(s)

CAMPBELL ET AL.

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment dated 1/7/06, RCE dated 2/6/06 and interview summary dated 02/16/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,5,7,8 and 10-13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kirk A. Buhler on 02/16/06.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical cord securing device comprising:

a replacement outlet cover configured with at least one hole located on opposite sides of an outlet wherein each hole has at least one louvered tab to prevent objects from being passes through the hole;

a plug retainer comprising: a an elongated slot extending the length of the plug retainer for passage of an electrical cord; and locking tabs on the sides of the plug retainer;

wherein a the plug retainer that surrounds at least a portion of an the electrical cord; and

wherein where the plug retainer is installed in the replacement outlet cover by pushing the locking retention tabs in on the sides of the plug retainer into the

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~~louvered openings~~ holes in the replacement outlet cover and removed by pressing in on the locking tabs on the sides of the plug retainer to collapse the elongated slot to disengage the plug retainer from the outlet cover.

Cancel claim 6.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The tabs from claim 1 6, where the tabs are rectangular.

Cancel claim 9.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The slot from ~~in~~ claim 1 9 where the slot is capable of retaining the ~~power~~ electrical cord.

Claim 11 (currently amended) The tabs from claim 1 6 where the tabs are shaped such that when the sides of the plug retainer are depressed the plug retainer cannot be collapsed.

Claim 12 (currently amended) The tabs from claim 1 6 further include raised, lowered or texture surface located on the sides of the tabs.

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Claim 13 (currently amended) The electrical cord securing device from claim 1 6 further includes at least one spacer that can be used to further secure a power cord within the plug retainer.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to provide, teach or suggest a plug retainer having an elongated slot extending the length of the plug retainer for passage of an electrical cord; and in combination with each hole having at least one louvered tab.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tho D. Ta whose telephone number is (571) 272-2014. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



THO D.TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

tdt
02/16/06